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On Jan 27, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By Joan Dancile Dallen

PATENT
016556-002910US

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ELECT.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

BARBER *et al.*

Application No.: 10/067,956

Filed: February 5, 2002

For: SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE
RIBOZYME LIBRARIES

Examiner: Mary M. Schmidt

Art Unit: 1635

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:


Pursuant to the Office Action mailed on December 12, 2002, applicants provide the following response and a Petition for a one-month extension of time in which to submit this Response.

Applicants elect Group III, claims 51-64 and 71-100, drawn to methods of selecting a ribozyme in a population of cells containing a ribozyme library.

Examiner Schmidt is reminded that two other related applications are pending. Both are undergoing substantive examination at this time. They are 09/357,741, being handled by yourself, and 09/355,221, which is being handled by Examiner Cynthia Wilder in Group 1637.

The elected claims include those claims copied from U.S. Pat. No.
6,183,959.

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 31,677

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